



G-5's "Eye on AMC"

U.S. Army Materiel Command

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Deployed Soldiers receive high-tech armament system

Deployed U.S. military police units in Iraq are getting a new, high-tech armament system that permits military personnel to remotely operate a weapon from the interior of an up-armored vehicle.

The Army has approved sending the Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station, known as the CROWS, to the war zone as an urgent requirement, said Lt. Col. Kevin Stoddard, product manager for Crew Served Weapons. The system, which is mounted on a HMMWV, enables gunners to remotely identify, assess and engage insurgents more safely and at greater distances.

Currently, MP units are operating first-generation CROWS that have "shoot-on-the-move" stabilized, targeting platforms, day- and night-time sensors and fire-control capabilities to gain vantage points in challenging terrains.

"During a recent reconnaissance mission in Iraq, MPs using the system went ahead of a convoy to gather intelligence and select a position," Stoddard said, explaining that after assessing the route, the CROWS team chose a position from where they spotted a terrorist preparing to attack the convoy.

Stoddard's office continues to evaluate data received from Iraq and Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., where a second generation of CROWS is being tested.

The Project Manager for Soldier Weapons in Picatinny, N.J. manages the CROWS program. The U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center provides engineering support.

Closer look: Anniston missile recycling center

Anniston Defense Munitions Center, a Joint Munitions Command activity located at Anniston Army Depot, operates the Department of Defense's first and only missile recycling center.

MRC provides an unprecedented capability for environmentally superior disposition of tactical missiles as an alternative to the traditional Open Burn/Open Detonation destruction processes. The center was designed using total Resource Recovery and Recycling technology (developed by the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command), which can be used for the majority of tactical missiles in the Army, Navy, Air Force and NATO inventories.

The recycling center also provides substantial cost avoidance by returning several missile components to the manufacturer for use in the new production of missiles. By the end of fiscal year 2005, a cost avoidance of more than \$10 million to the manufacturer will have been realized by providing low-cost components for reuse.

In January 2003, the Anniston munitions center began operation at the MRC having transitioned the technology and equipment from Huntsville, Ala. To date, the recycling center has recycled more than 17,000 Tube-launched Optically-tracked Wire-guided missiles.

Did you know...

Florida veterans who lost their Army medals and decorations because of the hurricanes and flooding last fall may have them replaced for free by the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command, Clothing and Heraldry Product Support Integration Directorate.

To receive "replacement" medals that were originally issued from TACOM, the veteran should provide his or her full name, award request number (if available), service or social security number, and current address for shipment of the medals to: U.S. Army TACOM, Clothing and Heraldry PSID, P.O. Box 57997, Philadelphia, Pa. 19111-7997.